# C A L I F O R N I A

## **FORM 9000 & INSTRUCTIONS**



# 2002 Homeowner Assistance Claim Booklet

You may qualify for Homeowner Assistance even though you are not required to file a state income tax return.

## Members of the Franchise Tax Board Kathleen Connell, Chair John Chiang, Member B. Timothy Gage, Member

# Are You Eligible?

#### File a claim if:

You were one of the following on December 31, 2001:

- 62 years of age or older;
- · Blind; or
- · Disabled; and

You meet all of the following requirements:

- You owned and lived in your own home on December 31, 2001;
- Your total household income for 2001 was \$37,119 or less; and
- You are a United States citizen, a designated alien, or qualified alien when you filed your claim.

**Note:** Use this booklet to file your 2002 Homeowner Assistance Claim. The qualifying period for this booklet is calendar year 2001; therefore, you will be providing information relating to the 2001 calendar year. You will also be providing information relating to your 2001/2002 property tax bill.

# Free Help

Free assistance is available between July 1 and October 15.

Franchise Tax Board field offices will not be able to fill out Homeowner Assistance claim forms this year due to budget constraints. Volunteers are available to provide help. Call (800) 338-0505 or visit our Website at www.ftb.ca.gov to get the address of a Homeowner or Renter Assistance Volunteer site near you.

If you need help completing the claim form in this booklet, please see page 2 and page 20.

## Asistencia Gratis en Español:

Asistencia gratis bilingüe en Español se describe en la pagina 20 de este folleto.





# **Homeowner Assistance**

# **What's In This Booklet**

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## **Free Assistance**

Franchise Tax Board filed office staff will not fill out Homeowner Assistance claim forms this year due to budget constraints. However, volunteers are available to provide help.

A statewide volunteer assistance program provides free assistance between July 1 and October 15, 2002 for completing your claim form. Call the Franchise Tax Board at (800) 338-0505, your local Senior Citizens Information and Referral Service, or your state legislator's office for the Homeowner and Renter Assistance (HRA) volunteer site nearest you. You may also view the Franchise Tax Board Internet Website at: www.ftb.ca.gov

If you need information to complete your claim form or to find out about your assistance check, call (800) 338-0505.

# **Letters**

If you need to write to us, send your letter to:

FRANCHISE TAX BOARD PO BOX 942886 SACRAMENTO CA 94286-0940

Include your social security number and your daytime and evening telephone numbers in your letter. We will respond to your letter within 15 weeks. In some cases, we may need to call you for additional information.

# **Form**

You can download, view, and print claim forms and publications. Go to our Website at: www.ftb.ca.gov.

You may also order forms and publications by phone. See "Where To Get Claim Forms" on page 20 for instructions.

## What's New

## Annual HRA filing period change

The annual filing period for filing Homeowner Assistance claims was changed starting with the 2001 claim year. The 2002 annual HRA filing period will take place between July 1, 2002 and June 30, 2003.

### **Total Household Income Limits Increase**

The maximum total household income you could have had in 2001 and still be eligible to file for claim year 2002 is \$37,119. For details, see "Who May File a Homeowner Assistance Claim Form" on the next page.

# **Commonly Asked Questions**

## Where Do I Call For Help? (800) 338-0505

Information about the Homeowner Assistance Program is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by calling our Toll-Free Phone Service at (800) 338-0505. Refer to the back cover of this booklet for the list of codes for commonly asked questions. Select Homeowner and Renter Assistance, then General Information, and enter the three-digit code when instructed. Have a pencil and paper ready to take notes.

In addition, you will see a phone symbol a in the margin next to some paragraphs in this instruction booklet. The number below the phone symbol is the code for recorded information on that topic.



#### What is Homeowner Assistance?

Homeowner assistance is a once-a-year payment from the State of California based on part of the property taxes assessed and paid on your home. Eligible homeowners may receive up to 139% of the property taxes paid in 2001 (see page 17). The maximum assistance payment allowed is \$472.60



#### Who May File a Homeowner Assistance Claim Form?

You may file a 2002 Homeowner Assistance Claim form if you were any of the following on December 31, 2001:

62 years of age or older (See **Note** on page 5, line 4a); **or** Blind; **or** Disabled; **and** meet **all** of the following:

- Owned and lived in your home in California on December 31, 2001. A home may include a condominium, "own-your-own" apartment, or a mobile home taxed as property; and
- Had total household income of \$37,119 or less in 2001; and
- Had gross household income of \$67,490 or less in 2001. Gross household income is total household income (form FTB 9000, Homeowner Assistance Claim, line 16) plus all non-cash business expenses such as depreciation, amortization, and depletion; and
- Are a United States citizen or a designated alien (see page 19), including a qualified alien, when you file your claim.

**Note:** You may file only one claim per household each year. Only one owner-claimant is entitled to payment per year. When two or more individuals of a household meet the qualifications, they should decide who will file the claim.

The federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (the Act) requires that payments for homeowner and renter assistance claims be distributed only to United States citizens and certain designated aliens, including qualified aliens. To apply for these benefits, you must provide a declaration stating your citizenship or alien status. Completing form FTB 9000, line 1 and line 2 and signing the form when you get to Step H provide the required declaration of your citizenship or alien status.

The Franchise Tax Board may request additional documentation or evidence to substantiate your declared status. The Act authorizes the Franchise Tax Board to compare information with the Federal Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) to verify the immigration status you declare. Applicable regulations also provide that information concerning aliens who cannot prove their declared alien status, after being provided an opportunity to do so, shall be reported to the INS.

#### When Should You File Your 2002 Claim?

You should file your claim between July 1, 2002, and October 15, 2002 if possible.

What If You Do Not File Your 2002 Claim on or Before October 15, 2002? You can file a 2002 claim until June 30, 2003. However, free volunteer assistance is not available after October 15, 2002. In addition, claim processing timeframes can be



considerably longer after October 15, due to the fact that income tax processing takes priority over HRA claims during the tax filing season.



#### Can I File an Assistance Claim for Past Years?

You had until June 30, 2002 to file a claim for 2001. All other prior claim years that are filed will be denied unless you were medically incapacitated (hospitalized or confined to a convalescent hospital during the entire claim filing period). If a medical incapacity prevents you from filing your current or past claim, you must file the claim by the earliest of the following dates, and attach proof of medically certified incapacity:

- Within six months after your medical incapacity ends; or
- Within three years of the end of the fiscal year for which you wish to claim the assistance. For example, for claim year 2002, you will need to file by June 30, 2006, or within six months after your incapacity ends, whichever date is earlier. However, do not use the 2002 claim form to file past claims.

There are no other exceptions that would allow you to file a claim for past years.



#### When Will Homeowner Assistance Checks be Mailed?

Most homeowner assistance checks will be mailed within 15 weeks from the date you file your claim, if you file by October 15, 2002 and the required documents are attached to your claim and your claim form is complete. See page 11 for a list of the required documents.

Please wait 15 weeks from the date you filed your claim before you call us about your assistance check. It may take up to 15 weeks to process your claim. If you call before we have processed your claim, we will not have information about your check.

If your claim form is not complete, we may call or write for additional information.

#### Will passage of the 2002 state budget affect my payment?

The HRA program may be impacted by provisions of the 2002 state budget. If passage of the budget is delayed and the Governor does not sign the budget until after July 1, 2002, payments may be delayed for several weeks. All HRA claim processing estimates provided in these instructions are from the date that the budget is signed into law.

#### **Death of Claimant**

#### If the date of death is on or before January 1, 2002:

No person may file a claim on behalf of a person who died on or before January 1, 2002.

#### If the date of death is on or after January 2, 2002:

Only the surviving spouse of an eligible claimant who died on or after January 2, 2002 and did not file a claim may file a claim on behalf of the deceased spouse. However, if you are eligible to file your own claim, you should file your own claim instead of filing on behalf of your deceased spouse.

If the eligible claimant died after the claim was timely filed, any assistance attributable to such a deceased claimant may be paid to the surviving spouse, and if no surviving spouse, to any other household member who is a qualified claimant.

#### **Before You Begin**

Make sure you have the 2002, Homeowner Assistance Claim, form FTB 9000.

Gather all of your 2001 income records. You will also need a copy of your 2001/2002 property tax bill.

#### Step-by-Step Instructions

We provide step-by-step instructions to help you complete your form FTB 9000. Fill in only those lines that apply to your situation. If you need information or forms that are not included in this booklet, see the back cover.

# **Step-by-Step Instructions for Completing the Claim Form**

2002 form FTB 9000, Homeowner Assistance Claim, is on page 13 of this booklet.

#### **STEP A** Name, Address, and Social Security Number

## If your booklet has a label on the front:

If the information is correct, attach the label to your completed claim. If the information is incorrect, cross out any errors and print the correct information. Place it on the name and address area in Step A of form FTB 9000.

## If your booklet does not have a label on the front:

Print in ink or type your full name and mailing address in the spaces provided in Step A at the top of form FTB 9000.

#### **Private Mailbox Numbers**

If you lease a private mailbox (PMB) from a private business rather than a PO Box from the United States Postal Service, include the box number in the field labeled "PMB no" in the address area.

## **Social Security Number**

Enter your social security number in the space provided. If you are married, you must enter your spouse's social security number in the other space provided.

#### **STEP B Filing Status**

## Line 1 – Are you a United States citizen?

Check "Yes" on line 1, skip line 2 and go to line 3. Yes.

Check "No" on line 1 then go to line 2.

## Line 2 – Benefit Eligibility for Noncitizens

Use the chart on page 19 to find the benefit eligibility code that matches your alien status. Then enter your alien status code on line 2a, alien registration number on line 2b, and date of entry to the United States on line 2c.

If you do not provide and complete the information requested on lines 2a, 2b, and 2c, or if your alien status is not included in the Eligibility Code Chart for Noncitizens on page 19, you cannot receive homeowner or renter assistance benefits.

## Line 3 - Date of Birth

You must enter the month, day, and year of your birth on line 3.

**Example:** If you were born on May 21, 1938, you would enter 05/21/1938 on line 3.

#### Line 4a – Check the appropriate box on the form: 62 or Older

If you were 62 or older on December 31, 2001, regardless of blindness or disability, check the box A.

Note: If you turned 62 on January 1, 2002, you are considered to be 62 on December 31, 2001. If you filed a claim form last year as blind or disabled and turned 62 during 2001, you must file as 62 or older by checking box A then go to line 5.

#### **Proof of Age**



If you are at least 62 years old, and received Supplemental Security Income (SSI), you do not need to send a proof of age document with your claim form. Your signature in Step H allows the Franchise Tax Board to verify your age with the Department of Health Services.

If you do not receive SSI, you must send a proof of age document for the first year you file as 62 years old or older. The proof of age document will become a permanent part of your record.

Attach a copy (do not send original documents) of **one** of the following:

- Birth certificate;
- Medi-Cal Benefits Identification Card (BIC):
- Hospital birth record;
- Church baptismal record; or
- Social security award letter that states your date of birth.

If you do not have any of the above documents, you should send a **copy** of any document that proves that you are 62 years old. Explain how the document proves your age.

Do not send your original Medi-Cal Benefits Identification Card as proof of age.

### We cannot accept the following documents as proof of age:

- A copy of a California driver's license or identification card; or
- A Medicare card issued after June 30, 1973.

#### Line 4b - Under 62 and Blind

If you are blind but less than 62 years old, check box B then go to line 5.

You are considered blind if you have a statement from a doctor that says you have either:

- Central vision acuity (sharpness of vision) of no more than 20/200 with correction;
- Tunnel vision, which is a limited visual field of no more than 20 degrees.

#### Line 4c - Under 62 and Disabled

If you are disabled but less than 62 years old, check box C. Then go to line 5.

You are considered disabled if you are unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity because of a physical or mental impairment that is expected to last for a continuous period of 12 months or longer. Further, you are considered to be disabled only if the physical or mental impairment is so severe that you are not only unable to do your previous type of work, but also cannot do **any** kind of substantial gainful work considering age, education, and work experience.

#### **Proof of Blindness or Disability**



- Proof of blindness or permanent disability is required only the first year you file a
  homeowner assistance claim. You will not need to send proof again as long as
  your condition remains the same.
- Proof of temporary disability is required each year that you file a homeowner assistance claim.

If you receive SSI, you do not need to send a document with your claim form to prove your blindness or disability. Your signature in Step H allows the Franchise Tax Board to verify your blindness or disability with the Department of Health Services.

**Exception:** If you received an SSI payment decision but have not received any payments yet, send a copy of the SSI decision.

If you do not receive SSI, you must provide a statement of blindness or disability signed by a registered optometrist or physician on the optometrist's or physician's letterhead. You must submit the original statement (not a copy). The statement must include the dates and nature of the blindness or disability. You may also send a copy of your Medicare card if you were receiving social security as a blind or disabled person on December 31, 2001. If you do not have a Medicare card, you may send a copy of your social security award letter.

We cannot accept your Medi-Cal Benefits Identification Card as proof of blindness or disability.

# **STEP C** Property Information

## Line 5 - Own and Live in Home

You must have owned **and** lived in your home in California on December 31, 2001. A home may include a floating home or houseboat, your own condominium, "own-your-own" apartment, or a mobile or manufactured home taxed as property. If you pay a vehicle-type tax on your mobile or manufactured home to the Department of Housing and Community Development, you may file **a** claim for **either** homeowner assistance or for renter assistance. You may not file claims for both.

#### Line 5a - Full Value

Enter the full value of your property on line 5a. The full value of your property is the value of your property as shown on your 2001/2002 property tax bill, less the homeowner's or veteran's exemption. This may also be identified as full cash value or full market value.

**Note:** Homeowner assistance is granted **only** on the first \$34,000 of the full value as shown on your property tax bill. Assistance will not be allowed on that part of the full value (after homeowner's or veteran's exemption) of a residential dwelling that is more than \$34,000.

#### Line 6 - Personal Use

If your property was used entirely for your personal use in 2001, check "No" and go to line 7. If you use part of your property for rental and/or business purposes, check "Yes" and enter your best estimate of the percentage of your property devoted to your personal use on line 6a. The percentage of your property you use as your home may be figured by the number of rooms, square footage, or any similar measure. For example, if you have five rooms in your home, use three rooms for your personal use and rent the other two rooms, your percentage of personal use would be figured this way:

3 rooms personal use 5 rooms total = 60% personal use

If you check "Yes," you must complete line 12.

#### Line 7 - Names on Your Property Tax Bill

List the name(s) and relationship(s) of anyone, other than yourself, who is included on your property tax bill. Indicate whether they lived in your home in 2001 by checking "Yes" or "No."

Enter 100% as your percentage of ownership if the name(s) listed on your 2001/2002 property tax bill include only your spouse or any of the following persons related to you or to your spouse:

Parents;

- Grandchildren or their spouses.
- Children or their spouses; or

If your interest in your property is a recorded life estate, you are entitled to assistance on the tax assessed on your property.

**Note:** Death or divorce ends the relationship of any individual above who is related to the claimant only by marriage.

Complete the worksheet on page 8 only if there are owners on your 2001/2002 property tax bill other than the relatives listed above and each owner has an equal percentage of ownership. If each owner does not have an equal percentage of ownership, do not complete the worksheet, go to line 7 of form FTB 9000 and enter your percentage of ownership.

<ol> <li>Number of owners, other than those listed on page 7 who did not live with you during the period January 1, 2001, through December 31, 2001</li></ol>	1.	Total number of owners listed on your 2001/2002 property tax bill	.1	
<ul><li>3. Subtract line 2 from line 1</li></ul>	2.	did not live with you during the period January 1, 2001,	2	
<ol> <li>Divide the amount on line 3 by the amount on line 1. This is your percentage of ownership of the home. Enter this percentage on</li> </ol>	_	_		
percentage of ownership of the home. Enter this percentage on	3.	Subtract line 2 from line 1	.3	
form FTB 9000, line 7	4.	Divide the amount on line 3 by the amount on line 1. This is your percentage of ownership of the home. Enter this percentage on		
		form FTB 9000, line 7	. 4	

# **STEP D** Income of Household Members

You must enter the total household income received by all household members for the entire 2001 calendar year. Total household income from all members includes your income, your spouse's income if you are married, and the income received by any other person who lived in your home (only enter the income that the other persons received while living in your home during the 2001 calendar year). However, do not include the income of minors, full time students (under the age of 24 years), or renters.

## Line 8 – Social Security/Railroad Retirement

Enter the total **yearly** amount of social security (including the amount deducted for Medicare premiums) and railroad retirement received by any household member, regardless of its source or taxability.

## Line 9 – Interest, Dividends, and/or Gain (or Loss)

Enter the combined total **yearly** amount of interest, dividends, and capital gain (or loss) received by any member of the household, regardless of source or taxability.

Combine the amount of income (or loss) from the sale of assets with total yearly interest and dividends. You may use California Schedule D, Capital Gain or Loss Adjustment, to figure California gain or loss (not the adjustment). The maximum deductible net loss from the sale of capital assets is \$3,000. Examples of capital assets are stocks and bonds.

You may use California Schedule D-1, Sales of Business Property, to figure net ordinary income or loss on the sale of business property.

#### Line 10 - Pensions and/or Annuities

Enter the total **yearly** amount of pensions and annuities received by any member of the household. Include disability retirement payments and IRA distributions, regardless of source or taxability.

## Line 11 - SSI/SSP, AB, and ATD

Enter the total **yearly** amount of the following types of assistance received by you, your spouse, or any household member.

- SSI/SSP (Supplemental Security Income/State Supplemental Plan);
- AB (Aid to the Blind); and
- ATD (Aid to the Totally Disabled).

**Note:** These payments are often called "Gold Checks."

#### Line 12 – Rental and Business Income (or Loss)

Enter the amount of net rental income (or loss). Provide the income or loss from your federal Schedule E (Form 1040), Supplemental Income and Loss or California Schedule CA (Form 540), California Adjustments. If you did not complete the federal Schedule E or California Schedule CA, provide the income or loss amount from any supporting document.

Enter the amount of net income (or loss) from your business. You may use the amounts from your federal Schedule C or C-EZ (Form 1040), Profit or Loss From Business, for business income (or loss), or federal Schedule F (Form 1040), Profit or Loss From Farming, for farm income (or loss).

If you checked "Yes" on line 6, you must complete line 12.

## **Line 13 – Other Income (Including Wages)**

Enter the total yearly amount of other income received by you, your spouse, and the other members of your household during 2001. Some of the types of income that you must include on line 13 are:

- Wages;
- Alimony received;
- Life insurance proceeds to the extent they exceed the expenses incurred for the last illness and funeral of a deceased spouse or the claimant;
- Veteran's benefits:
- Unemployment insurance benefits:
- Worker's compensation for temporary disability (amounts for permanent disability must be entered on line 11);
- Amounts received from an employer or any government body for loss of wages due to sickness or accident (sick-leave payments);
- Military compensation (including nontaxable military compensation):
- Scholarships and fellowship grants;
- Nontaxable gain from the sale of a residence;
- California lottery winnings in excess of \$600 in 2001; 100% of other lottery winnings;
- Gifts and inheritances (including noncash items) in excess of \$300, except transfers between members of the same household:
- Amounts received from an estate or trust that were not included on any other line;
- Amounts contributed by or on behalf of the claimant to a tax sheltered retirement plan or deferred compensation plan:
- The amount of alternative minimum taxable income in excess of your regular taxable income, if you were required to pay alternative minimum tax on your 2001 California income tax return; and
- Public assistance and relief, other than as excluded below.

Types of income that you must **not** include on line 13 are:

- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, formerly Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC);
- Foster care payments;
- Federal heating rebates;
- Utility company refunds or assistance:
- Medicare or Medi-Cal reimbursements for medical expenses; and
- Homeowner or renter assistance payments.

Homeowner assistance will not be included as income or resources in determining the amount of public assistance payments to which you are entitled. Therefore, payments or assistance you or your spouse receive, such as food stamps, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, SSI/SSP, or payment for homemaker/chore services will not be reduced as a result of filing this claim.

#### Line 14 – Subtotal

Add line 8 through line 13.

# **STEP E** Adjustments to Income

## Line 15 - Adjustments to Income

You may deduct the following from your income:

- Individual Retirement Arrangement Deduction Deduct your deductible contribution to an Individual Retirement Account (IRA), Keogh (HR 10), Simplified Employee Plan (SEP), or Savings Incentive Match Plans for Employees (SIMPLE).
- Student Loan Interest Deduction Deduct the amount allowed for California personal income tax.
- Archer Medical Savings Account (MSA) Deduction Deduct the amount you contributed to an MSA.
- Moving Expenses Deduct allowable moving expenses that were not reimbursed by your employer.
- Self-employment tax deduction Deduct one-half of your self-employment tax imposed for the taxable year.
- Self-employed health insurance deduction Deduct the amount allowed for California personal income tax.
- Forfeited interest penalty on early withdrawal of savings Deduct the penalty charged for premature withdrawal from a savings account.
- Alimony paid Deduct court-ordered alimony payments.

Attach the appropriate form or a schedule explaining each adjustment to income.

You may **not** subtract these items from your household income:

- Mortgage payments;
- Utilities;
- Repairs;
- Taxes (other than self-employment tax);
- Fees:
- Medical bills: and
- Interest paid on loans (other than interest on qualified education loans).

## STEP F Total Household Income

#### Line 16 - Total Household Income

Subtract line 15 from line 14. Enter the result on line 16. If the amount on line 16 is **more** than \$37,119, STOP. You do **not** qualify for homeowner assistance.

# STEP G Property Tax Paid and Homeowner Assistance Claimed

## **Line 17 - Property Tax for 2001/2002**

Enter the total tax (after subtracting your homeowner's or veteran's exemption) from your 2001/2002 property tax bill. **Do not include payments for special or direct assessments, including improvement bonds or charges for services.** The maximum amount of property taxes claimed on your homeowner's claim cannot exceed one percent (1%) of the full value of the property as shown on your 2001/2002 property tax bill.

You **must** attach a copy of your **2001/2002** property tax bill, a tax status report, or a Cooperative Housing Property Tax Statement to your claim.

If you are a mobile or manufactured home owner, you **must** include a copy of the Registration card and Renewal Billing Notice issued by the Department of Housing and Community Development and/or property tax bill you received for your mobile or manufactured home.

#### Line 18 – Homeowner Assistance Claimed

The amount of homeowner assistance you will receive will be figured for you. You do **not** have to complete this line. If you wish to figure the amount of assistance, see "Worksheet to Figure the Amount of Homeowner Assistance" on page 17.

**Note:** The law provides that no payment is permitted if the amount of allowable assistance is \$5 or less.

#### STEP H Signature, Date, and Telephone Number

#### Authorization

If you receive SSI, the Franchise Tax Board can verify with the Department of Health Services that you meet the age, disability, or blindness requirement. This helps us process your claim faster. In addition, other eligibility criteria may be verified with the Department of Health Services and other state or federal agencies.

#### Declaration

Your signature on form FTB 9000, Step H, is also your declaration of your qualified alien or citizenship status.

### Sign and Date Your Claim Form

You must sign and date your claim form in the space provided. You may sign by making a mark in front of a witness. The word "witness" and the witness's signature must be entered after your mark. If you are filing on behalf of a deceased spouse. print "Surviving Spouse" after your signature. See instructions for Death of Claimant on page 4.

## Preparer Tax Identification Number (PTIN)

Tax professionals have the option of providing their individual Social Security Number (SSN) or Preparer Tax Identification Number (PTIN) on claims they prepare. The alternative number can be used in lieu of an SSN beginning January 1, 2000. Preparers who want a PTIN must complete and submit federal Form W-7P, Application for Preparer Tax Identification Number, to the IRS.

#### **Enter Your Telephone Number**

Your telephone number is important. If the need arises, we can provide you with faster and more complete service if we can contact you by telephone rather than in writing.

# **Review and Mail Your Claim Form**

#### **Review Your Claim Form**

Review your claim form to make sure it is complete and correct. Be sure to include any copies of documents that were requested in the instructions (see list below).

If the required documents are not attached to your claim form, your check will be delayed until the Franchise Tax Board receives and processes the missing documents. Attach copies of the following required documents that apply to your claim:

- Proof of age (required for the first year you file as 62 or older (see page 5 for additional information)):
- Proof of blindness or permanent disability (required for the first year you file as blind or permanent disabled):
- Proof of temporary disability (required each year you file as disabled) and;
- If you lived in a mobile or manufactured home, a copy of the Registration Renewal Notice and Registration card and/or property tax bill you received for your mobile or manufactured home; and
- Your property tax bill (except for Tenant-Stockholders).

Keep the following documents that apply to your claim for your records (do not send in copies unless you are specifically requested to do so).

- If you have rental income (or loss), business income (or loss), capital gains (or loss), or adjustments to income, a complete copy of your 2001 federal Form 1040 along with the supporting schedules;
- If the claim is signed by someone acting as an Attorney in Fact, a copy of the Power of Attorney:
- If you do not own your home but have a possessory interest, a copy of the document granting you a possessory interest:
- If your property is held in a trust, a copy of the Certification of Trust, or the date of execution of the trust instrument, the identity of the settlor(s), current acting trustee(s), whether it is a revocable trust, and the trust identification number.

#### Mail Your Claim Form

Mail your claim form and attached documents to:

FRANCHISE TAX BOARD PO BOX 942886 SACRAMENTO CA 94286-0904

In most cases, homeowner assistance checks will be mailed within 15 weeks from the date you filed your claim.

# **Privacy Act Notice**

The Information Practices Act of 1977 and the Federal Privacy Act require that the following information be provided to individuals who are asked to supply information:

The official who is responsible for maintaining the information is the Director, Processing Services Bureau. Address your correspondence to:

DIRECTOR, PROCESSING SERVICES BUREAU FRANCHISE TAX BOARD PO BOX 942840 SACRAMENTO CALIFORNIA 94240-1040.

#### Telephone number:

Outside the United States .....(916) 845-6600

The Revenue and Taxation Code requires every person claiming benefits under the Homeowner and Renter Assistance Program to make a claim according to the forms and regulations prescribed by the Franchise Tax Board (Sections 20501 through 20646 and the Regulations pertaining thereto). Individuals making claims or providing statements or other documents are required to include their social security numbers to ensure proper identification and to permit processing of the claims. (See also Section 205(c)(2) of the Federal Social Security Act as amended by Section 1211 of the Federal Tax Reform Act of 1976.)

The principal purposes for requesting information are to permit the department to properly respond to homeowner and renter assistance claims and other communications and to determine the validity of claims. Filing a claim for assistance is voluntary. However, if a claim is filed, the applicant must complete the form and provide all requested information for the claim to be considered. Assistance shall not be allowed based on incomplete or inaccurate claims.

As authorized by law, information furnished on the form may be transferred to the federal Immigration and Naturalization Service and to the following governmental agencies and officials of the State: Board of Control, Board of Equalization, Department of Finance, Office of the State Controller, Auditor General, and Legislative Analyst. An individual has a right of access to records containing his/her personal information that are maintained by the Franchise Tax Board.

CALIFORNIA FORM

# Homeowner 2002 Assistance Claim (for income received in 2001)

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	V	V	v

STEP A	Your first name	Initial Last name	
	Spouse's first name	Initial Last name	
Name, address, and	Present home address — number and street, Po	O Box or rural route Apt. no.	PMB no.
social security number	City, town, or post office	State ZIP Code	
SSN	Your social security number		IPORTANT:  ocial security number  is required.
STEP B Filing	1. Are you a United States If you checked "Yes," skip If you checked "No," go to		☐ YES ☐ NO
Status	If you have a qualifying a enter your alien status co line 2a. Then enter your a	<ul> <li>the United States, go to page 19.</li> <li>lien status for the United States, ode from the chart on page 19 on alien registration number on line 2b to the United States on line 2c.</li> <li>2a.</li> <li>2b.</li> <li>2b.</li> <li>2c.</li> </ul>	Alien Status Code  Alien Registration Number  / Date of Entry
	<ul> <li>4. Check the appropriate be December 31, 2001: <ul> <li>A. 62 years or old</li> <li>B. Under 62 and</li> <li>C. Under 62 and</li> </ul> </li> <li>See instructions on page 5 document to your claim. If</li> </ul>	of birth MM DD YYYY ox if you were <b>one</b> of the following on der (See <b>Note</b> on page 5, line 4a) • A	Date of Birth
STEP C Property Information Complete	If "No," stop. You do <b>not</b> of a. Enter the FULL value subtracting your home	5. qualify for homeowner assistance. e of your property (after	☐ YES ☐ NO
line 5 through line 7.	6. Is your property used for as well as personal use If you checked "Yes," enter		
		onship(s) of anyone, other than ed on your property tax bill.	Did this person live in your home in 2001?
	Name	Relationship	YES NO
	Name	Relationship	☐ YES ☐ NO
	Name	Relationship	☐ YES ☐ NO
	Enter your percentage	of ownership	%

STEP D	On line 8 through line 13 enter you See instructions on page 8 and p		come	for th		caler	_	ear. Cents)
Income of household members	8. Social Security and/or Railro	•		8	(	•	1	
members	9. Interest, Dividends, and/or G	ain (or Loss)		9.				
	10. Pensions and/or Annuities .			10.				
	11. SSI/SSP, AB, and ATD (Gold C (full year total)	heck). See page 8		11.				
	12. Rental and Business Income	(or Loss). See page 8		12.				
	13. Other Income (including wag	<b>es).</b> See page 9		13				
	14. SUBTOTAL. Add line 8 through	line 13		14.				
STEP E Adjustments to income	15. Adjustments to Income. See p	page 10		15				
STEP F Total household income	16. TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME Subtract line 15 from line 14 . If line 16 is more than \$37,119,		● fy.	16				
Property tax paid and homeowner  17. PROPERTY TAX FOR 2001/2002								
assistance claimed	You do not have to complete line assistance for you.	18. If you stop here,	we wil	l figu	re the	amou	nt of	
	18. Homeowner assistance claim See page 11			18				
	Reminder							
	If this is your first year filing a l SSI, please provide proof of you				you d	id not	receiv	e e
	If you filed a claim last year an of your temporary disability if y							
STEP H Signature,	Caution: To avoid delay of your chec mail to: FRANCHISE TAX BOARD, P						below	, and
date, and telephone number	I authorize the Franchise Tax Board to match is sary to process my claim, against information and other state or federal agencies to confirm	gathered from public records, t my eligibility for the Homeown	the files er Assis	of the D tance P	epartme rogram.	nt of He	alth Ser	vices,
	Under penalties of perjury, I declare that this concluding accompanying schedules and any accompanying schedules and complete.							
Sign Here 🕨	XClaimant's signature				Date_			
	Claimant's Daytime Telephone Number						_	
Paid Preparer's	PREPARER'S SIGNATURE	Date  Check if self-employe	[	Preparer'	s social se	curity nun	ber/PTIN	
Use Only	FIRM'S NAME (OR YOURS, IF SELF-EMPLOYED) AND ADDRESS			FEIN/PTI	N			
_		_		TELEPHO	· ` · · ·	)		
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		_	_					

CALIFORNIA FORM

# Homeowner 2002 Assistance Claim (for income received in 2001)

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	V	V	v

STEP A	Your first name	Initial Last name	
	Spouse's first name	Initial Last name	
Name, address, and	Present home address — number and street, Po	O Box or rural route Apt. no.	PMB no.
social security number	City, town, or post office	State ZIP Code	
SSN	Your social security number		IPORTANT:  ocial security number  is required.
STEP B Filing	1. Are you a United States If you checked "Yes," skip If you checked "No," go to		☐ YES ☐ NO
Status	If you have a qualifying a enter your alien status co line 2a. Then enter your a	<ul> <li>the United States, go to page 19.</li> <li>lien status for the United States, ode from the chart on page 19 on alien registration number on line 2b to the United States on line 2c.</li> <li>2a.</li> <li>2b.</li> <li>2b.</li> <li>2c.</li> </ul>	Alien Status Code  Alien Registration Number  / Date of Entry
	<ul> <li>4. Check the appropriate be December 31, 2001: <ul> <li>A. 62 years or old</li> <li>B. Under 62 and</li> <li>C. Under 62 and</li> </ul> </li> <li>See instructions on page 5 document to your claim. If</li> </ul>	of birth MM DD YYYY ox if you were <b>one</b> of the following on der (See <b>Note</b> on page 5, line 4a) • A	Date of Birth
STEP C Property Information Complete	If "No," stop. You do <b>not</b> of a. Enter the FULL value subtracting your home	5. qualify for homeowner assistance. e of your property (after	☐ YES ☐ NO
line 5 through line 7.	6. Is your property used for as well as personal use If you checked "Yes," enter		
		onship(s) of anyone, other than ed on your property tax bill.	Did this person live in your home in 2001?
	Name	Relationship	YES NO
	Name	Relationship	☐ YES ☐ NO
	Name	Relationship	☐ YES ☐ NO
	Enter your percentage	of ownership	%

STEP D	On line 8 through line 13 enter you See instructions on page 8 and p		come	for th		caler	_	ear. Cents)
Income of household members	8. Social Security and/or Railro	•		8	(	•	1	
members	9. Interest, Dividends, and/or G	ain (or Loss)		9.				
	10. Pensions and/or Annuities .			10.				
	11. SSI/SSP, AB, and ATD (Gold C (full year total)	heck). See page 8		11.				
	12. Rental and Business Income	(or Loss). See page 8		12.				
	13. Other Income (including wag	<b>es).</b> See page 9		13				
	14. SUBTOTAL. Add line 8 through	line 13		14.				
STEP E Adjustments to income	15. Adjustments to Income. See p	page 10		15				
STEP F Total household income	16. TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME Subtract line 15 from line 14 . If line 16 is more than \$37,119,		● fy.	16				
Property tax paid and homeowner  17. PROPERTY TAX FOR 2001/2002								
assistance claimed	You do not have to complete line assistance for you.	18. If you stop here,	we wil	l figu	re the	amou	nt of	
	18. Homeowner assistance claim See page 11			18				
	Reminder							
	If this is your first year filing a l SSI, please provide proof of you				you d	id not	receiv	e e
	If you filed a claim last year an of your temporary disability if y							
STEP H Signature,	Caution: To avoid delay of your chec mail to: FRANCHISE TAX BOARD, P						below	, and
date, and telephone number	I authorize the Franchise Tax Board to match is sary to process my claim, against information and other state or federal agencies to confirm	gathered from public records, t my eligibility for the Homeown	the files er Assis	of the D tance P	epartme rogram.	nt of He	alth Ser	vices,
	Under penalties of perjury, I declare that this concluding accompanying schedules and any accompanying schedules and complete.							
Sign Here 🕨	XClaimant's signature				Date_			
	Claimant's Daytime Telephone Number						_	
Paid Preparer's	PREPARER'S SIGNATURE	Date  Check if self-employe	[	Preparer'	s social se	curity nun	ber/PTIN	
Use Only	FIRM'S NAME (OR YOURS, IF SELF-EMPLOYED) AND ADDRESS			FEIN/PTI	N			
_		_		TELEPHO	· ` · · ·	)		
Do	o not write in this space	L Do	o not wr	ite in th	is space ∎	A	R	RES
		_	_					

# **Worksheet to Figure the Amount of Homeowner Assistance**

If you want, we will figure the amount of homeowner assistance for you. You may, however, figure this amount by completing line 1 through line 9 for those items that apply to you. Complete only if the full value of your property as shown on your 2001/2002 property tax bill is more than \$34,000 after subtracting your homeowner's or veteran's exemption. 1. Enter the full value shown on form FTB 9000, line 5a  $\dots$ 2. Divide \$34,000 by the amount on line 1 above (100% maximum) . . . . . . . . . 2. \_ Complete only if your property is used for rental and/or business purposes as well as for your home. 3. Enter the percentage of your home devoted to your personal use shown % Complete only if there are owners (other than you and your spouse, or the parents, children, grandchildren [or their spouses] of you or your spouse) listed on your property tax bill who do not live in your home. 4. Enter the percentage of your ownership shown on form FTB 9000, line 7 . . . . . 4. Figure the amount of homeowner assistance. 5. Enter the property tax for 2001/2002 shown on form FTB 9000, line 17 ...... 5. 6. Enter the lowest percentage from line 2, line 3, or line 4 above. % 7. Multiply the amount on line 5 by the percentage on line 6. Enter this amount 8. Find your total household income on the schedule below and enter the % percentage of assistance here ..... 8. x 9. Homeowner assistance. Multiply the amount on line 7 by the percentage

# **Homeowner Assistance Schedule**

	l household me is	Your		al household ome is	Your
From	То	percentage of assistance is	From	То	percentage of assistance is
\$0	\$9,279	139%	20,418	21,035	59%
9,280	9,898	136%	21,036	21,654	54%
9,899	10,516	133%	21,655	22,272	49%
10,517	11,135	131%	22,273	22,890	45%
11,136	11,755	128%	22,891	23,510	41%
11,756	12,373	125%	23,511	24,128	36%
12,374	12,991	122%	24,129	24,746	32%
12,992	13,610	119%	24,747	25,365	29%
13,611	14,229	116%	25,366	25,983	26%
14,230	14,848	113%	25,984	26,602	23%
14,849	15,466	110%	26,603	27,221	20%
15,467	16,085	106%	27,222	27,839	17%
16,086	16,704	100%	27,840	29,387	15%
16,705	17,323	94%	29,388	30,933	12%
17,324	17,941	88%	30,934	32,481	10%
17,942	18,560	83%	32,482	34,027	9%
18,561	19,178	77%	34,028	35,573	7%
19,179	19,796	71%	35,574	37,119	6%
19,797	20,417	65%	37,120	And Over	0%

# **Example Worksheet to Figure the Amount of Homeowner Assistance**

**Example:** Your home was not used as a rental and/or business, your percentage of ownership is 100%, and the full value of your property as shown on form FTB 9000, line 5a is \$70,000. Your property tax after subtracting the homeowners or veterans exemption is \$700. Your total household income is \$13,611.

1.	Value of home, from form FTB 9000, line 5a	1.	\$70,000
2.	Divide \$34,000 by \$70,000 $(34,000 \div 70,000 = 48.6\%)$	2.	48.6%
3.	Personal use of home, from form FTB 9000, line 6a	3.	100%
4.	You are the sole owner, see form FTB 9000, line 7	4.	100%
5.	Property tax, from form FTB 9000, line 17 5	5.	\$700
6.	Enter smallest percentage of line 2, 3, or 4	6.	48.6%
7.	Multiply line 5 by line 6 (700 x $48.6\% = 340.20$ )	7.	\$340
8.	The percentage on \$13,611 of household income is 116% 8	8.	116%
9	Multiply line 7 by line 8 (340 x 116% = 394.40)	9.	\$394.40

**Note:** Line 7 cannot be greater than \$340.00.

The amount from line 9 is your allowable assistance. Enter this amount on form FTB 9000, line 18.

**Example:** Your home was not used as a rental and/or business, your percentage of ownership is 100%, and the full value of your property as shown on form FTB 9000, line 5a is \$24,000. Your property tax after subtracting the homeowners or veterans exemption is \$240. Your total household income is \$13,611.

1.	Value of home, from form FTB 9000, line 5a	1.	\$24,000
2.	If the value of your home is less than \$34,000 enter 100%	2.	100%
3.	Personal use of home, from form FTB 9000, line 6a	3.	100%
4.	You are the sole owner, see form FTB 9000, line 7	4.	100%
5.	Property tax, from form FTB 9000, line 17	5.	\$240
6.	Enter smallest percentage of line 2, 3, or 4	6.	100%
7.	Multiply line 5 by line 6 (240 x 100% = 240)	7.	\$240
8.	The percentage on \$13,611 of household income is 116%	8.	116%
9	Multiply line 7 by line 8 (240 x 116% = 278.40)	9.	\$278.40

Note: Line 7 cannot be greater than \$340.00.

The amount from line 9 is your allowable assistance. Enter this amount on form FTB 9000, line 18.

# **Chart for Finding the Benefit Eligibility Code for Noncitizens**

#### Are you a United States citizen?

Yes STOP. You must check the "Yes" box on line 1 of form FTB 9000. You do not need to read this page.

No You must enter an eligibility code from the chart below on line 2a of form FTB 9000. Follow the instructions below for determining your eligibility code.

#### **General Information**

If you are not a United States citizen, you may file a claim for homeowner assistance only if you are one of the following when you file your claim:

- A qualified alien;
- A nonimmigrant alien under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA); or
- An alien paroled into the United States under Section 212(d)(5) of the INA for less than one year.

These categories of aliens are described further by the Eligibility Code Chart for Noncitizens below. Undocumented aliens and aliens not described below are not eligible to receive homeowner or renter assistance and should not complete a claim form.

#### Instructions

If you are **not** a United States citizen, find the category listed below that accurately describes your presence or admission to the United States. Transfer the alien status code letter for that category to form FTB 9000, line 2a.

Note: If you have questions regarding your immigration status, contact your local Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) office.

# **Eligibility Code Chart for Noncitizens**

If you are:	Use Alien Status Code:
<ul> <li>An alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence under the INA;</li> <li>An alien who (or whose child or child's parent) has been battered or subjected to extreme cruelty in the United States by a spouse or parent or by a spouse or parent's family member living in the same house; OR</li> <li>The child of an alien who has been battered or subjected to extreme cruelty in the United States by a spouse or parent or by a spouse or parent's family member living in the same house.</li> </ul>	В
An alien who is granted conditional entry under Section 203(a)(7) of the INA as in effect prior to April 1, 1980.	С
An alien whose deportation is being withheld under Section 243(h) of the INA (as in effect immediately prior to September 30, 1996) or Section 241(b)(3) of the INA (as amended by Section 305 (a) of Division C of Public Law 104-208).	D
An alien who is granted asylum under Section 208 of the INA.	E
A refugee admitted to the United States under Section 207 of the INA.	F
An alien paroled into the United States for one year or more under Section 212(d)(5) of the INA.	G
An alien who is a Cuban or Haitian entrant (as defined in Section 501(e) of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980).	Н
An alien paroled into the United States for less than one year under Section 212(d)(5) of the INA.	I
A nonimmigrant alien, as defined in Section 101(a)(15) of the INA, admitted under the INA (8 U.S.C. Section 1101).	J

#### You do not qualify for homeowner assistance if:

- Your alien status is not described above.
- You are an undocumented alien. Undocumented aliens do not qualify for most public benefits, including homeowner assistance.

# **Toll-Free Phone Service**

Our phone service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can hear prerecorded answers to many of your questions about Homeowners and Renters Assistance in English and Spanish. For your convenience, please have paper and pencil ready to take notes.

#### Call:

From within the United States	. (800) 338-0505
From outside the United States	. (916) 845-6600
	(not toll-free)

Select Homeowner and Renter Assistance, then General Information and enter the three-digit code when instructed. Answers to some of the General Information questions below may be found in your claim booklet.

#### **Code General Information**

800	What is homeowner assistance and what is the
	maximum amount a claimant can receive?

- 801 What is renter assistance and what is the maximum amount a claimant can receive?
- 802 Do I need to report my assistance payment as income on my California tax return?
- 803 Who is eligible for homeowner assistance?
- 804 Who is eligible for renter assistance?
- 805 Can I file a claim for both homeowner and renter assistance?
- 806 Will the homeowner assistance create a lien on my house?
- 807 When will I get my assistance check?
- 808 Can I file an assistance claim for past years?
- 810 How can I prove my age?
- 811 How can I prove my blindness or disability?
- 812 How do I compute my gross household income?
- 816 I need assistance on my property tax bill. Who do I contact?
- 818 When should I file my homeowner or renter assistance claim?
- 819 Who do I contact about low-income housing?
- 821 I lived in a mobile or manufactured home. Which claim form should I file?
- 822 Can I deduct my prior year Net Operating Loss?
- 823 Can I file on behalf of my disabled minor child?
- 824 I lived in a mobile or manufactured home. What documents do I attach to my homeowner assistance claim?
- 825 I lived on tax exempt property. Do I qualify for renter assistance?

#### **Status of Your Assistance Payment**

You can find out the status of our assistance payment by calling (800) 338-0505 and selecting Homeowner and Renter Assistance Payment Information. Please allow 15 weeks from the date you mailed your claim for processing to be completed.

# **Where to Get Claim Forms**

**By Internet** – You can download, view, and print claim forms and publications from our Website at:

www.ftb.ca.gov

**By Mail** – Write to: TAX FORMS REQUEST UNIT, FRANCHISE TAX BOARD, PO BOX 307, RANCHO CORDOVA CA 95741-0307.

**By Phone** – You can order current year claim forms and publications by calling (800) 338-0505 and selecting Homeowner and Renter Assistance, then select order forms. Refer to the list below to find the code number for the form or publication you want to order:

# Code Homeowner and Renter Assistance Forms and Publications

- 700 Form FTB 9000, Homeowner Assistance Claim Booklet
- 701 Form FTB 9000R, Renter Assistance Claim Booklet
- 702 FTB 9000 AUD, Homeowner Assistance Claim Booklet on Audio Cassette
- 703 FTB 9000R AUD, Renter Assistance Claim Booklet on Audio Cassette
- 704 2002 Property Tax Postponement for Senior Citizens, Blind or Disabled Citizens
- 705 FTB Pub. 9050, Homeowner Assistance Renter Assistance & Property Tax Postponement
- 706 FTB Pub. 9051, Asistencia De Propietarios De Casa Assistencia De Inquilinos y Diferimiento De Impuestos De Propiedad
- 707 Form FTB 9106, Household Income Schedule
- 708 Form FTB 9225 C-1, Declaration of Citizenship, Alienage, and Immigration Status
- 709 Form FTB 9109, Cooperative Membership

# **Where to Mail Your Claim Form**

FRANCHISE TAX BOARD PO BOX 942886 SACRAMENTO CA 94286-0904

# **Additional Services**

#### Assistance for persons with disabilities

We comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Persons with hearing or speech impairments please call:

From TTY/TDD .....(800) 822-6268

#### Asistencia Bilingüe en Español

Para obtener servicios en Español y asistencia gratis para completar su declaración de impuestos/formularios, llame al número de teléfono (anotado arriba) que le corresponde.

Usted puede calificar para un reembolso de una parte de los impuestos sobre propiedad que usted paga si en Diciembre 31 de 2001, usted tenia 62 años (o mas) o estaba ciego o incapacitado, y fue dueño de la casa donde vivia, y su ingreso por año no fue mas de \$37,119 y usted es ciudadano de los Estados Unidos o un extranjero designado (incluyendo a extranjeros calificados) como se describe en la pagina 19 de este folleto.

Formularios para solicitar ésta asistencia deben ser entregados del primero de Julio 2002, al 30 de Junio 2003.